



Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meetings December 5-6, 2016

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at:

<http://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/board/BOD-December-2016-Synopsis.pdf>

More information on agenda items may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (listed on web site) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

Action Items and Board Directives The Board of Directors (BOD) took action and directed the ASAA staff as follows:

➤ **ASAA Board Officer Election:** elected Steve Zanazzo (Region 6) as President and Andrew Friske (Region 5) as Vice President of the ASAA Board of Directors.

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

➤ **Football Quarter Final Clarifications:** took action to revise the Football State Championships Policy, Item #2 to read:

2. PLAY IN GAMES
 - a. Small School Semi-finals (*date*)
 - b. Large School Quarter finals (*date*)

Officials are to be selected and paid by the host school. As ASAA is not hosting this event, the rules pertaining to roster limits, sideline access/passes, ticket prices, use of drones, etc. will be those in effect during the regular season.

All teams must submit rosters, photos and other requested information by the established State Champion Deadlines.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)



- **Article 6, Section 4 Bylaw:** took action to revise the Article 6 Sec. 4 Bylaw to read:

“A certified staff member, or other person approved in advance by the principal or superintendent of a member school or district, must be in charge of participants. For athletic events this person must be certified through the Alaska Coaches Education Program. Host schools must have an administrator or designee in attendance.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **Article 10, Section 2 Bylaw** took action to eliminate the Article 10, Section 2 Bylaw

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **Article 7, Section 7B Bylaw:** took action to revise the Article 7 Section 7B Bylaw to read:

“When a student is participating in an ASAA sport that overlaps the beginning of another ASAA sport, up to five practices may be waived. In addition, when a student is participating in a nationally recognized activity (or the Arctic Winter Games) that overlaps the beginning of an ASAA sport season, the Executive Director may waive up to five practices. For purposes of this section a “nationally recognized activity” is a non-school athletic competition and/or practice in a sanctioned ASAA sport, conducted under the auspices of a national sports governing body as part of an Olympic Development Program. The activity will usually be conducted outside the state of Alaska.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **Wrestling Injury Defaults:** took action to add the following verbiage to the NFHS Wrestling rule Section 7 Default: Rule 5-6:

“Any wrestler that defaults due to injury or illness during the tournament must receive a medical release (performed, when available, by a medical provider able to perform pre-participation physicals) to continue in the tournament. If the wrestler does not receive a medical release, then the remaining matches in the tournament will be recorded as forfeits. The wrestler will retain any team points earned up until that point. A wrestler required to receive a medical release to continue must weight in on day two to continue in the tournament.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- **North Pole Opt-Up Request:** Region 6 motioned to allow North Pole High School to opt up to large school football beginning in the fall of 2017.

(motion died for lack of a second)



- > **State Soccer Seeding:** took action to change the State Soccer Seeding process to read:

“Immediately following the conference results on the Saturday prior to the State Tournament, ASAA will post the 8 teams that have qualified (including their season results). All qualifying teams can rank the other qualifying teams (including their own team). This ranking must be sent to ASAA by Sunday 12 noon. Those rankings will determine the first round pairings.”

(Carried 6-2) (Reg. 1 - YES; Reg. 2 - YES; Reg. 3 - YES; Reg. 4 - NO; Reg. 5 - YES; Reg. 6 - NO; AASA - YES; AASB - YES; AASG - YES.)

- > **Softball Jamboree Regulations:** took action to revise the jamboree policy in softball by deleting the pitchers being limited to only pitching two innings. The policy now reads:

“A softball jamboree shall include three or more teams. A team is limited to no more than six innings total, with no more than two innings against any other team. A team may not play in more than one jamboree each season. A jamboree does not count as a game against the 22-game limit.”

(Carried - Unanimous Consent)

- > **2017-2018 ASAA Calendar:** took action to adopt the 2017-2018 ASAA Calendar of Events using the same dates as 2016-2017 with the exceptions of the dates for the 2A/Mix 6 Volleyball and Small Schools Hockey Championships. The dates for the 2A/Mix 6 Volleyball and Small Schools Hockey Championships will be determined at the February Meeting.

(Carried – Unanimous Consent)

- > **3A/4A State Volleyball State Tournament Site:** took action to move the 3A/4A State Volleyball Tournament to West Anchorage High School, if the Alaska Airlines Center (UAA) has a scheduling conflict.

(Carried – Unanimous Consent)

- > **State Tournament Sites for Nordic Ski, Baseball and Softball:** took action to accept a 6 year bid from the Anchorage and Fairbanks Ski Associations to rotate the Nordic Ski State Championships every two years between Anchorage and Fairbanks. Took action to accept a three year bid from American Legion to host the State Baseball tournament at Mulcahy Field. Took action to accept a three year bid from the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District to host the State Softball Championships in Fairbanks at Davis Fields.

(Carried – Unanimous Consent)



> **Grace Christian Baseball Conference Placement:** took action place Grace Christian into the Southcentral Conference for baseball.

(Carried – Unanimous Consent)

> **ASAA Hall of Fame Selection Committee:** took action confirm Frank Ostanik as the Region 6 representative to the ASAA Hall of Fame selection committee.

(Carried – Unanimous Consent)

> **Small and Large Schools vs. 123A and 4A Titles:** took action to table the decision on renaming state tournaments based on:

- 2 classifications = Small & Large
- 4 Classifications = 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A
- 3 Classifications = Small, Medium & Large

(Carried – Unanimous Consent)

Reports: The BOD heard the following reports:

- Board Members
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- Officials/Coaches
- Sponsorships/Marketing/Promotions
- Play for Keeps, Win for Life/Hall of Fame
- Executive Director

Public Comments: Heard comments from Anchorage Christian School principal, Jason Hofacker, regarding the possible reformatting of the 3A volleyball conferences.

Executive Session: The board moved into executive session to discuss financial and personnel matters.

Workshops: None

Hearings:

- Board upheld the decision of the Executive Director to deny a waiver of the Transfer rule to a student.



Tabled Items:

1. Dates for the State Championships in 2A/Mix 6 Volleyball and Greatland Hockey.
2. Small and Large Schools vs. 123A and 4A Titles

Discussion Items: The BOD discussed the following items:

> **State Softball Tournament Format:** discussed a request by the Softball Coach's Committee to expand the tournament from 2 to 3 days. The tournament would use "pool" play to seed a bracket.

> **3A Volleyball Conferences:** after reviewing several different options to reconfigure the conferences for 3A volleyball, the Board felt none solved the issue without adding significant additional expenses to the involved schools. Region 5 proposed having a committee award an "at-large" berth by comparing the second place Southeast conference team with the third place team from the Western, Southcentral and Aurora conferences. (The berth would come out of the Southcentral conference.) The committee would use criteria such as head-to-head matches, records against other 3A schools.

Region 3 supported the concept if there were to be two "at-large" berths, with both the Western conference and the Southcentral conference giving up a berth. ASAA Staff noted a new rotational bracket would be needed and that teams would need to report scores in order for the committee to make a selection. The Board was asked to discuss this issue at their upcoming regional meeting with possible action being taken during the February ASAA Board meeting.

> **Cooperative School Programs:** directed the ASAA Staff to send out to the member schools changes in the Cooperative School Programs Bylaw. These changes will allow the Board of Directors the ability to grant cooperative school program request for school unable to do so within the existing bylaws.

> **Eligibility for Managers:** directed the ASAA Staff to send out to the member schools changes in the bylaws and policies regarding the use of student managers. These changes would clarify the need for student managers to meet ASAA eligibility requirements (grades, age, enrollment, etc), but could also seek a wavier in order to serve as a manager. It would furthermore allow the use of 7th and 8th grade students as managers with the approval of the school's administration.

> **Baseball Pitch Count:** discussed the mandate from the NFHS requiring all states to have a pitch count rule for baseball in place by the 2018 baseball season.

> **Pre-participation Physical Expiration Date:** directed the ASAA Staff to send out to the member schools changes modifying the Pre-participation Physical Exam Rule. This change would make the physicals good for 18 months.



- > **Roster Limits:** discussed expanding the roster limits for football to either 55 or 60. Region 4 will bring a proposal to the February Board of Director’s meeting for discussion with possible action in April.
- > **State Baseball Bracket:** discussed a proposal to go to a double elimination bracket for the State Baseball Tournament. The ASAA Staff believes this would require going to a four day tournament. The Board members were asked to take this issue back to their regions and the Board of Directors will discuss this proposal again in February.
- > **3A Basketball Berths:** discussed a proposal from Region 5 to change from the current format for awarding 3A basketball berths. The proposed change would award one berth to each four conference champions with final four berths determined by the highest ranked WPI which did not automatically qualify. This would go into effect for the 2017-2018 school year. The Board members were asked to take this issue back to their regions and the Board of Directors will discuss this proposal again in February.
- > **Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Recommendations:** discussed the following recommendations from the SMAC:
 1. Schools follow the “Return to Play” protocol for any student with a suspected concussion regardless to how the concussion happened (Example: a student is in a car wreck during the sport’s season and suffers a possible concussion.).
 2. Schools should adopt the “Anyone Can Save a Life” program.
 3. Coaches should be required to take the NFHS Sudden Cardiac Arrest course.
 4. NFHS online course “Heat Illness Prevention” be taken by cross country, football and tennis coaches and (add) **baseball, softball, track & field and soccer coaches.**
- > **Football Scheduling:** discussed how the existing policy is still unsatisfactory to both ASAA and member schools. Issues with teams wanting to go “out of state” leading to issues with the schedule being truly a two-year schedule.
- > **Definition of “Practice”:** discussed adding an official definition of “practice” to read”

“a “practice” is defined as a regularly scheduled team physical activity designed for the preparation of athletes for the sports season and conducted under the supervision of a certified school coach during the season established by the Board of Directors. In order to qualify as a practice the student must participate in at least an hour of physical activity.”



- > **Lumen Christi Cross Country and Rifle Conference Placement:** discussed Lumen joining the Region 2 Cross Country meet and there not being Rifle Conferences.

- > **Concussion Management:** directed the ASAA Staff to send out to the member schools changes updating the Article 11 Section 4 Concussion Management Bylaw. This update would also be reflected in Athletic Related Policy #15. The changes do not change the policy, they only eliminate some no longer required verbiage.

- > **State Tennis Berths:** discussed the current allocation of State Tennis berths and how the expansion of teams participating in Region 3 may require a change, possibly taking a berth from Region 4. The Board will be reviewing all individual berths during the February Board meeting, so it will be addressed during that time. Additionally, it may be possible to add an additional berth to the tournament.

- > **ASAA Forms:** discussed the difficulty of having to resubmit information on the Contest Ejection forms that is already available to ASAA. ASAA Staff will review this concern along with other forms to see if the process can be simplified. Additionally there was discussion on the desire for the “sending” school to be able to have confidentially on information provided to ASAA. The ASAA Staff understood the concern, but legally is required to make available to the student any information as to why a waiver is denied.

- > **AASG Website:** discussed ways in which the AASG website currently soley operated by AASG could be merged with the AASG website maintained by ASAA staff. ASAA Staff would be not be willing to allow outside access to the ASAA servers which currently host the site, but would be more than willing to work with the AASG PR Representative on how to link the sites.



Items for February 13-14, 2017 - Regular Meeting

- State Softball Tournament Format
- 3A Volleyball Berths
- Cooperative School Programs
- Out of Season Contact Review
- Supplemental Hockey Rules Committee
- Eligibility for Managers
- Baseball Pitch Count
- Pre-participation Physical Expiration Date
- Roster Limits
- State Baseball Bracket (Double Elim)
- 3A Basketball Berths
- SMAC Recommendations
- Football Scheduling Issues
- Concussion Management
- Practice Definition
- Individual Sports Berths

Tabled Items

1. Dates for the State Championships in 2A/Mix 6 Volleyball and Greatland Hockey.
2. Small and Large Schools vs. 123A and 4A Titles